
WOMT Summary for 6/10/2008

Based on the discussion of current project operational status, combined salvage of Delta smelt and longfin smelt at the export facilities and the most recent distribution data of Delta smelt (20 mm smelt survey # 6):

The Smelt Working Group recommended that the Projects keep the agricultural barriers' flapgates tied open and continue operating to a 7-day running average Old & Middle River flow of -2,000 cfs. However, they also recommended changing the OMR target to -1,500 cfs if any of the following occurs: (1) delta smelt densities at the exports are above 40 delta smelt per TAF on two consecutive days, (2) delta smelt densities are above 30 ds/TAF on three days, or (3) daily OMR is more negative than -2,500 cfs on any day.

The Service determined that the following recommendation would be protective of delta smelt. The projects will maintain the 7-day average combined OMR flow more positive than -2,000 cfs with combined exports not increasing more than 1,000 cfs on any given day unless 1) average salvage over any two consecutive day period reaches or exceeds 40 delta smelt per thousand acre feet (TAF) exported (ds/TAF) or 2) average salvage over any consecutive three day period reaches or exceed 30 ds/TAF exported. If one of the two triggers are met, then export facilities immediately start operating to an OMR flow no more negative than -1,500 cfs. Maintain the Agricultural Barriers flap gates open.

The Projects concurred with the operation proposed by the Service until next weeks' WOMT meeting.

DFG determined that the action would be adequately protective of longfin smelt.
